

From: Barb Hansen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 8:07pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

January 16, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

The Department of Justice and Microsoft have finally settled their three year long antitrust case. We are writing to you to give our support to this settlement. It has, in our opinion, gone on far too long. Any further litigation would be damaging to America's economy.

We personally think the antitrust case was more an attempt by Microsoft's competitors to disarm the company than any unfair business practices. "Sour grapes" is the only term we can think of to describe the antitrust case against Microsoft.

Overall, Microsoft has been very fair. Microsoft has agreed to release its intellectual property in the internal interface for the Windows operating system; license other intellectual property; open up Windows to modifications to let its competitor's more easily promote their products; and subject itself to a technical committee checking for compliance with the agreement.

It is time to move on. America has rebounded from last September. We have a great deal of optimism about our economy. We need to let Microsoft get back to what it does so well - innovation in the technology field.

We urge you to give your support to the Microsoft settlement. We do.

Sincerely,

Barbara & Richard Hansen
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